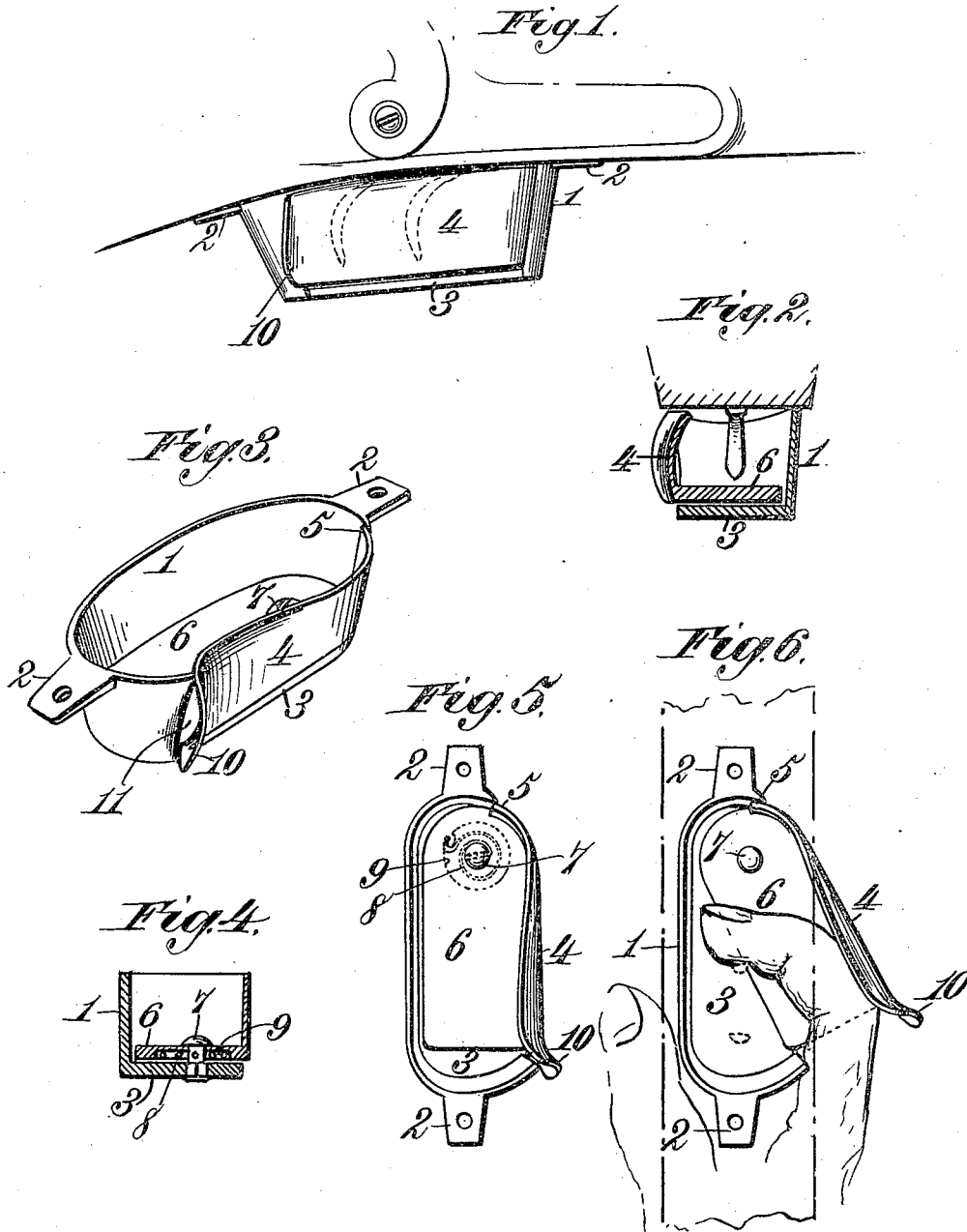


H. P. WESTCOTT & J. M. HIRT.
TRIGGER GUARD.

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955,237.

Patented Apr. 19, 1910.



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY P. WESTCOTT AND JOHN M. HIRT, OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.

TRIGGER-GUARD.

955,237.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 19, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY P. WESTCOTT and JOHN M. HIRT, citizens of the United States, residing at Erie, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Trigger-Guards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in trigger guards and has more particular reference to a trigger guard which wholly incloses the trigger or triggers of the firearm and thereby prevents accidental discharge.

The invention specifically embodies a casing which may be secured to the under side of the stock of the firearm and which has a displaceable side wall held normally in closed position by a spring but capable of yielding to permit of the insertion of the finger for the purpose of pulling the triggers.

In the accompanying drawings, we have illustrated a preferred and advantageous embodiment of the invention.

In the said drawings: Figure 1 is a sectional view showing the adaptation of the device to any well known form of gun or rifle. Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view through the center of the device. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the device unattached. Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view through the pivot connection of the displaceable wall. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the device with the wall in its normal closed position, and Fig. 6 is a similar view showing the position which the wall assumes when the finger of the operator is inserted into the casing for the purpose of pulling the trigger or triggers.

Similar characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The improved trigger guard comprises essentially a substantially elongated oval-shaped casing, as 1, having an open top and provided at its ends with apertured projections, as 2. The projections 2 provide for the attachment of the device to the under side of the stock of the firearm, the apertures serving for the reception of screw fastenings or similar devices. The casing 1 has a base, as 3, and it has also an opening at one side thereof, which opening is normally closed by a displaceable wall, as 4. The latter is shaped in continuation of the

general outline of the casing and is provided with a curved forward portion, as 5, which overlaps the curved forward end of the casing 1, as shown in Fig. 6, and also with a base portion, as 6, which is pivotally connected to the base 3 by a suitably secured pin, as 7. For the purpose of holding the wall 4 normally in closed position, a spring, as 8, is provided. This spring is preferably set into a recess, as 9, which is formed on the under face of the base portion 6 and has one end secured to the pin 7 and its other end secured to the said base portion. The wall 4 has at its rear end an angularly extended portion, as 10, having a curved cross section and affording a throatway, as 11, through which the operator may insert his finger. The cross sectional shape of the portion 10 provides for the throatway 11 and facilitates the passage of the operator's finger into the casing, as shown in Fig. 6, at which time the wall 4 readily yields on its pivot against the tension of the spring 8. It will be understood that while this spring is amply sufficient to hold the wall closed, it is not of sufficient strength to provide any material degree of pressure to resist the insertion of the finger. A further advantage of the angularly turned portion 10 is that its cross sectional shape conforms to the curvature of one's finger and, therefore, the only action necessary to open the wall 4 is the insertion of the finger, the wall 4 in such case constituting the guide for directing the finger in the proper direction into the casing.

The guard is of particular advantage in that it wholly prevents accidental access to the trigger when the gun is not in use and yet it does not involve the loss of any time in its manipulation, since the act of engaging the finger with the trigger immediately opens the side wall of the guard, no other steps being involved in this operation.

The device requires no change in the form of the firearm and may, therefore, be attached to any known construction of firearm and it may be used by itself or in connection with the regulation trigger guard with which firearms are usually provided. It has also the advantages of simplicity and inexpensiveness and does not interfere with the movement of the finger in pulling the trigger.

Having fully described our invention, we claim:

1. A trigger guard comprising a casing

which has a displaceable wall providing for the insertion of the operator's finger into the casing and being opened by such insertion and a spring for holding the wall in normally closed position.

2. A trigger guard comprising a casing of oval form and which has a pivoted displaceable side wall and a spring for holding the wall in normally closed position.

10 3. A trigger guard comprising a casing of oval form and which has a pivoted side wall having at one end an angularly turned portion of curved cross section and affording a throatway for the insertion of the operator's
15 finger.

4. A trigger guard comprising a casing having a base and a displaceable side wall having a base piece which overlies the base

of the casing and is pivoted thereto, and a spring for holding the side wall in normally closed position. 20

5. A trigger guard comprising a casing for immovable attachment to a firearm to inclose the trigger thereof, and a displaceable wall to normally close the casing, the wall in its open position providing for the insertion of the operator's finger into the casing. 25

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in presence of two subscribing witnesses. 30

HENRY P. WESTCOTT.
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Witnesses:

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